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## **Senate aims to clean up scrap tires**

**LANSING** – The Senate today passed a package of bills that would help eliminate more than 10 million scrap tires located throughout Michigan, said Sen. Ron Jelinek, a sponsor in the package.

The legislation would revise a current program to more efficiently and effectively clean up the tires and redefine tires as commodities so they can be sold and reused to make other products.

“Our goal is to clean up the millions of scrap tires in Michigan while turning them into a marketable resource,” said Jelinek, R-Three Oaks. “Tires piled around can be a public safety hazard and environmental risk but they are very valuable and can be converted into usable items such as park benches, road materials, athletic tracks and building materials.”

The bills in the package would:

- Create a new category of scrap tires designated as a “commodity”;
- Regulate the delivery of scrap tires to various locations;
- Regulate the storage of scrap tires and ensure adequate distance between tire piles to prevent fires;
- Limit the growth and size of tire piles and require 75-percent of tires at a collection site be recycled or reused;
- Require the DEQ to submit regular reports on the effectiveness of the program and include ways to encourage the reuse and safe storage of scrap tires; and
- Extend the sunset on the current scrap tire clean-up funding program that provides grants to local communities for tire disposal.

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